GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2377
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2016
Monitoring of Migrant Workers
Mahendran Shri C.;Muddahanumegowda Shri S.P.

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a)whether any register either at Centre or at State level for migrant workers is maintained in the country, if so, the details thereof;
(b)whether the Government has introduced/proposes to introduce a specific scheme for the benefit of the migrant workers and also put in place monitoring mechamism to track their movement in the country to help them avail social security benefits including voting rights and to get back loans and revise the allocation to States based upon updated data;
(c)if so, the details thereof along with the time by which the said scheme is likely to be introduced; and
(d)the other steps taken/being taken by the Government for the welfare and to safeguard the interests of the migrant workers in the country?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)
(a): The Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979 provides for registration of only establishments engaging the Inter-state migrant workers. The register for migrant workers is not maintained at central level.
(b) to (d): There is no scheme exclusively for migrant workers. However in order to safeguard the interest of the migrant workers, the central Government has enacted The Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979 which, inter alia, provides for payment of minimum wages, journey allowance, displacement allowance, residential accommodation, medical facilities and protective clothing etc. The provisions of various labour laws like 'The Employees' Compensation Act, 1923; The Payment of Wages Act, 1936; The Industrial Disputes Act, 1947; The Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948; The Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 and the Maternity Benefit Act, 1961 are also applicable on migrant workers. The Government has also enacted the Unorganized Workers' Social Security Act, 2008 to provide for social security and welfare of unorganized workers including migrant workers. The Central Government and some of the State Governments have signed Memorandum of Understanding to facilitate strengthening of Inter-state coordination mechanism for smooth implementation of the activities in source and destination areas of migrant workers.
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